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Crop Values Beef Agribition Farm Numbers Livestock Operations

Featuring:

Annual Milk Production Licensed Dairy Herds Farm Labor

Tennessee 2005 Crop Values Down 6 Percent

Production value for Tennessee's 2005 principal field, fruit, and vegetable crops decreased 6 percent from 2004's \$1.23 billion. The decline was a combination of less production for some commodities and lower prices for others. Showing an increase in value were snapbeans, cotton, peaches, tomatoes, and sorghum. Declining from the previous year were cottonseed, hay, soybeans, corn, apples, squash, tobacco, and wheat.

Near record yields and record production kept **cotton and cottonseed** as the number one valued crop in the State at \$286 million. This was the first time Tennessee broke one-million bales in production. Completing the top five were **hay**, \$239 million; **soybeans**, \$232 million; **corn**, \$151 million; and **tobacco**, \$96.7 million. The value of Tennessee's fruit and vegetable crop increased 21 percent to \$74.0 million, due in large part to the increased production of snapbeans. Fresh market **tomatoes** were valued at \$42.4 million, followed by fresh market **snapbeans**, \$23.8 million; commercial **peaches**, \$2.30

million; commercial **apples** \$2.01 million; commercial **squash**, \$1.52 million.

Tennessee's 2005 cotton and cottonseed value was up 27 percent from the previous year's value of \$225 million. The 2005 marketing year average (MYA) price for cotton increased \$0.066 per pound from 2004 and production was 14 percent higher than the year earlier. Hay remained the number two valued crop in the State, despite production being down 11 percent. Hay prices were up 5 percent from the previous year. Soybeans production and prices both declined during 2005, 14 percent and 1 percent respectively, but the value of the crop remained third. Corn, the fourth highest valued crop in the State, also saw prices and production both decline 10 percent during 2005. Due mainly to reduced acreage, tobacco once again declined in value during 2005. Production was down 21 percent and average prices were down 12 percent, resulting in the value of the crop dropping 31 percent. Only the value of wheat dropped more during 2005, declining 41 percent.

Crop Values: Tennessee, 2004-2005

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Crop	Unit	Average Price Per Unit		Value of Production	
		2004	2005	2004	2005
		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Apples	lb.	.263	.268	2,765	2,012
Corn for grain	bu.	2.17	1.95	186,837	150,833
Cotton	lb.	.405	.471	191,290	253,210
Cottonseed	ton	99.50	85.00	33,432	33,235
Grain Sorghum	cwt.	3.87	3.35	3,316	3,452
Hay, All	ton	52.00	54.50	256,215	238,619
Alfalfa	ton	105.00	117.00	13,965	13,104
All Other	ton	51.00	53.00	242,250	225,515
Peaches	ton	1,070	1,280	1,926	2,304
Snapbeans, Fresh Market	cwt.	33.00	36.00	12,045	23,832
Soybeans	bu.	5.58	5.55	269,960	231,990
Squash	cwt.	22.30	18.30	2,116	1,516
Tobacco, All	lb.	2.138	1.872	139,762	96,739
Tomatoes, Fresh Market	cwt.	34.00	34.00	40,120	42,432
Winter Wheat	bu.	3.48	3.35	47,746	28,140

Beef Agribition Offers Cost Share-Ready Bulls and More
March 10-12, 2006 at M.T.S.U.

Nashville, Tenn. – Tennessee Beef Agribition will be held in Murfreesboro, March 10-12 at Middle Tennessee State University's Tennessee Livestock Center. The annual three-day cattle show and sale event traditionally features one of the largest cattle trade shows in the Southeast, giving producers a look at new products and the direction of the industry.

Ten different chartered beef breeds are represented and more than 20,000 people are expected to attend Agribition. Breed shows begin Friday at 11 a.m. with sales for each breed immediately following that breed's show. Saturday shows and sales begin at 8:30 a.m. and at about 10:30 a.m., respectively. A limited number of cow and calf pairs will be available for sale. All animals will be available for viewing at the center before being sold. The junior show, one of the event's most popular features, will take place Sunday.

To learn more about Tennessee Beef Agribition, contact Quintin Smith at (615) 444-8701. For information about the junior show, contact Kevin Ferguson at (615) 898-7710.

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class: Tennessee, 2000-2005

Year	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	Number					
2000	66,000	18,000	1,950	1,200	850	88,000
2001	66,000	18,000	1,950	1,200	850	88,000
2002	66,000	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,500
2003	65,500	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,000
2004	63,500	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	85,000
2005	62,500	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	84,000

Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class, Tennessee, 2000-2005

Year	Economic Sales Class					Total	Average Size Farm
	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$250,000- \$499,999	\$500,000 & Over		
1,000 Acres							Acres
2000	4,800	3,700	950	950	1,400	11,800	134
2001	4,800	3,700	950	950	1,400	11,800	134
2002	4,800	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,700	134
2003	4,700	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,600	133
2004	4,650	3,600	950	950	1,450	11,600	136
2005	4,500	3,600	950	1,000	1,550	11,600	138

Livestock Operations¹ & Rankings: Tennessee and United States, 2004 & 2005

Class	Tennessee			Rank in U.S.		United States		
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2004	2005	2005/2004
	Number		Percent			Number		Percent
All Cattle & Calves	49,000	48,000	98	4	4	989,460	982,510	99
Beef Cows ²	43,000	42,000	98	4	4	774,930	770,170	99
Milk Cows ²	1,200	1,100	92	17	17	81,520	78,295	96
All Hogs & Pigs	1,400	1,300	93	15	15	69,500	67,330	97
Sheep	1,200	1,100	92	25	26	67,580	68,280	101

¹ An operation is any place that has one or more of the species on hand anytime during the year. ² Included in operations with cattle.

Tennessee Milk Production: Milk produced on Tennessee farms during 2005 totaled 1.10 billion pounds, down 53 million pounds from 2004. Tennessee milk cows were once again extremely efficient, with the decline in production due to fewer cows. Average milk produced per cow, at 15,743 pounds, increased 343 pounds from 2004, to a record high. Milk cow numbers in the state averaged 70,000 in 2005, down 5,000 cows from the previous year's average of 75,000.

U.S. Milk Production: The annual production of milk for the U.S. during 2005 was 177 billion pounds, 3.5 percent above 2004. Revisions to 2004 production increased the annual total 129 million pounds. Revised 2005 production was up 0.3 percent or 498 million pounds from last month's publication. Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 19,576 pounds for 2005, 609 pounds above 2004. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 19.1 percent from 1996. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2005 was 9.04 million head, up 3.2 percent from 2004. The average number of milk cows was revised up 2,000 head for 2004, and up 7,000 head for 2005.

Milk Cows and Production: Tennessee, 2000 - 2005

Year	Number of Milk Cows on Farms ¹	Milk Production Per Cow	Milk Production ²
	Thousands	Pounds	Million Pounds
2000	95	14,789	1,405
2001	92	14,511	1,335
2002	88	14,943	1,315
2003	79	15,253	1,205
2004	75	15,400	1,155
2005	70	15,743	1,102

¹ Average number on farms during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: Number and Milk Produced by Quarter, Tennessee, 2004 - 2005

Year	Milk Cows ¹				Milk Production ²			
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
	1,000 Head				Million Pounds			
2004	77	76	75	73	310	310	265	270
2005	72	71	69	69	295	300	250	257

¹ Quarterly average includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Number of Operations & Licensed Dairy Herds

Tennessee: The number of licensed dairy operation in Tennessee during 2005 fell 7 percent from the year earlier. Total operations, including both Grade A and Grade B dairies, averaged 710 during 2005, down 50 from 2004. The average number of operations with milk cows in Tennessee dropped 8 percent during 2005 to 1,100.

Milk Cows: Number of Operations & Licensed Dairy Herds by Selected States, Tennessee, and United States, 2004 - 2005

State	2004		2005	
	Operations with Milk Cows ¹	Licensed Dairy Herds ²	Operations with Milk Cows ¹	Licensed Dairy Herds ²
	Number	Number	Number	Number
AL	190	100	190	90
AR	380	240	320	210
GA	630	330	610	320
KY	2,300	1,435	2,200	1,335
MS	390	250	350	230
MO	2,800	1,840	2,700	1,780
NC	800	375	680	365
Tennessee	1,200	760	1,100	710
VA	1,400	850	1,400	815
US	81,520	66,825	78,295	64,555

¹ An operation is any place having one or more head of milk cows, excluding cows used to nurse calves, on hand at any time during the year. ² Average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk, based on counts collected from State and other regulatory agencies.

Hired Workers Up 3 Percent, Wage Rates Up 3 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 796,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 8-14, 2006, up 3 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 616,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 180,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.11 per hour during the January 2006 reference week, up 33 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.15 per hour, up 44 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$9.25 per hour compared with \$9.20 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.19 per hour, was up 29 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.2 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 3 percent from a year ago. The largest increases in the number of hired farm workers from last year occurred in the Pacific (Oregon and Washington), Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), and Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) regions. Despite very wet weather in the Pacific region, continued expansion in the nursery and greenhouse industries increased the demand for hired workers. In the Corn Belt I region, warm temperatures and midweek rains caused extremely muddy conditions in feedlots, corrals, and pastures, stressing livestock and increasing the need for hired workers. Unseasonably warm, dry weather in the Delta region allowed field and farm activities to progress rapidly. Also, many producers were still cleaning up the damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Therefore, more hired workers were needed. In the Northeast II region, above normal temperatures allowed some preparations for spring planting to begin, heightening the demand for hired workers.

The largest decreases in the number of hired farm workers from a year ago were in California and in the Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas), Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota), and Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia) regions. In California, heavy rains and flooding for two weeks prior to the reference week limited field activity in central and northern areas. Also, tight security at the Mexican border and strong competition from the higher paying construction industry continued to cause farm worker shortages. Thus, fewer workers were hired during the reference week. Extremely dry conditions in the Southern Plains region caused many livestock producers to liquidate their herds, lessening the demand for hired workers. In the Appalachian II and Northern Plains regions, the unseasonably warm weather decreased the need for supplemental feeding. Therefore, fewer livestock workers were needed.

Hired farm worker wage rates were generally above a year ago in most regions. The largest increases occurred in the Corn Belt I, Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina), Northeast II and Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri) regions. In the Corn Belt I and II regions, the warm weather led to considerable movement of grain to market, heightening the demand for highly paid truck drivers and machine operators. The higher wages in the Southeast region were due to the increased demand for highly skilled machine operators and truck drivers on livestock and poultry operations and a larger percentage of nursery and greenhouse workers in the work force. The higher wages in the Northeast II region were due to a higher than normal percentage of nursery and greenhouse workers.